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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for-representing a root bus of a computer system, comprising:

dynamically generating an object-oriented abstraction corresponding to a the root bus referencing a method one or more methods that obtains may be implemented to obtain and/or generates generate configuration and resource allocation information for the root bus and a any subordinate bus busses connected either directly or indirectly to the root bus; and

registering the method methods referenced in the object-oriented abstraction via a data structure stored in a memory of the computer system.

- 2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the object-oriented abstraction comprises one of a C++ object or Java object.
 - 3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the root bus comprises a PCI bus.
- 4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising enumerating the root bus and said any subordinate bus busses through use of the method methods that is are registered.
- 5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, further wherein the object-oriented abstraction includes at least one variable for storing information, further comprising storing configuration information derived during enumeration of the root bus into said at least one variable.
- 6. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising allocating resources for the root bus, the each subordinate bus, and a device any devices attached to the those root and subordinate busses; and

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storing information corresponding to resources that are allocated in said at least one variable for storing information.

- 7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein functions of the root bus are controlled, at least in part, by a chipset having a plug-in driver, further comprising interrogating the plug-in driver to identify said plurality of methods.
- 8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein functions of the root bus are controlled, at least in part, by a chipset having a plug-in driver, further comprising publishing the object-oriented abstraction via the plug-in driver.
- 9. (currently amended) A method for defining resource configuration information in a system that includes a plurality of root busses, comprising:

identifying each of the plurality of root busses;

defining an object oriented representation of each root bus comprising a set of components that includes references to a plurality of methods that may be implemented to obtain and/or generate configuration and resource allocation information for that root bus and at least a any subordinate bus busses connected either directly or indirectly to the root bus;

assigning a bus identifier for each of the <u>at least</u> subordinate <u>bus</u> busses through use of an enumeration process that implements one or more of the methods referenced by the object oriented representation of <u>the that</u> root bus,

wherein each of the foregoing operations is performed via execution of machineexecutable instructions by the system.

- 10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the object oriented representation includes a globally unique identifier (GUID) for each root bus.
 - 11. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

creating a handle; and

storing references corresponding to the GUTDs for each root bus in the handle.

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- 12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the handle further includes indicia for each GUID identifying a location of the object oriented representation corresponding to the GUID.
- 13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the indicia comprises a pointer to the memory address at which the object oriented representation is stored.
- 14. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein each root bus and the at least any subordinate bus busses connected either directly or indirectly to the root bus form a hierarchy, and wherein the enumeration process for each root bus comprises:

assigning bus identifiers as the at least subordinate bus is busses are reached while moving downward through the hierarchy; and

calculating resource requirements for the at least each subordinate bus while moving back up the hierarchy.

- 15. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising: determining resource requirements for the at least each subordinate bus; allocating the resource requirements for the at least that subordinate bus; and setting resources for the at least that subordinate bus.
- 16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one of the subordinate busses for a given root bus has a peripheral device connected to it, and further wherein determining the resource requirements for the at least each subordinate bus includes determining the resource requirements of a any peripheral device devices attached to the at least that subordinate bus.
- 17. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising: allocating resources for the each root bus based in part on the resources of the at least its subordinate bus busses; and

setting the resources for the that root bus.

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- 18. (currently amended) The method of claim 9; further comprising:

 evaluating devices in the hierarchy of the each root bus to determine if the root bus

 produces they produce a firmware device or an optional ROM that includes may include BIOS corresponding to a bootable device.
- 19. (currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that when executed perform operations comprising the functions of:

generating an object-oriented abstraction corresponding to a root bus referencing a method one or more methods that obtains may be implemented to obtain and/or generates generate configuration and resource allocation information for the root bus and a any subordinate bus busses connected either directly or indirectly to the root bus; and

registering the method methods referenced in the object-oriented abstraction.

- 20. (original) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the computer-executable instructions comprises one or more software modules including a root bus driver.
- 21. (currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein execution of the instructions further performs operations comprising the function of assigning a bus identifier for each of the subordinate <u>bus</u> busses through use of an enumeration process that implements one or more of the method methods referenced by the object oriented abstraction of the that root bus.
- 22. (currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the root bus and the any subordinate bus busses connected either directly or indirectly to the root bus form a hierarchy, and wherein the enumeration process for the root bus comprises:

assigning bus identifiers as the subordinate bus is busses are reached while moving downward through the hierarchy; and

calculating resource requirements for the each subordinate bus while moving back up the hierarchy.

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23. (currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein execution of the instructions further performs the functions of:

determining resource requirements for the each subordinate bus; allocating the resource requirements for the that subordinate bus; and assigning the resources that are allocated to the root bus that is a parent of the that subordinate bus.

24. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein execution of the instructions further performs the functions of:

creating a handle; and

storing references corresponding to a globally unique identifier (GUID) for the objectoriented abstraction and a pointer to the object-oriented abstraction in the handle.